

ALBERT CHAVANNES, President.

C. RUTHERFORD, Vice President.

CHARLTON KARNs, Cashier.

Knox Co. Bank & Trust Co.

448 Crozier Street,

Knoxville, Tenn., NOV 12 1890

Hon. Director of U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:

I herewith hand you a coin purporting to be a fifty cent coin of the U.S. Government dated 1832. I wish to know whether or not it is a genuine coin. Several parties who are locally regarded as good judges of money have pronounced it genuine, but I am not satisfied about it. Some 30 days ago there was a reunion of veterans in this city bringing in a large number of strangers. Immediately after this, coins similar to the one enclosed

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began making their appearance, sometimes three or four of them among one depositor's silver; and there are a great many now in circulation here among the shop-keepers. The coins all have the bright new appearance, which I think not in keeping with the dates, which range from 1824 to 1833. I also notice that a majority of the coins I have seen have the same blemish you notice on this one, where the word "Pluribus" seems to have been partly masked out, which I think the mint would hardly have passed

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unnoticed, and which could hardly be attributable to accidents of circulation.

As, in my capacity of Teller, I am frequently called upon to accept or reject these coins, I will be greatly obliged if you will give this coin your careful consideration and let me know what it really is, at your earliest convenience.

Very Respectfully
Thos. D. Arnold
Teller, Knox Co. B. & T. Co.

[NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 166]

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448 Crozier Street
Knoxville, Tenn., November 12, 1890

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